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Forty-seventh session
Items 56 and 61 (j) of the preliminary
list*

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN SOUTH ASIA

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: REGIONAL DISARMAMENT

Letter dated 25 February 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the statement of 20 February 1992 on Pakistan's nuclear programme made by Mr. Muhammad Siddique Khan Kanju, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (see annex).

I shall be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex is circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 56 and 61 (j) of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Jamsheed K. A. MARKER
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

* A/47/50.

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ANNEX

Statement made on 20 February 1992 by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan on Pakistan's nuclear programme

Pakistan's nuclear programme is entirely peaceful in character and is not weapon-oriented. We remain firmly committed to the objective of nuclear non-proliferation and are willing to accept any non-discriminatory regional régime for keeping South Asia free of nuclear weapons.

Since 1974, when India exploded a nuclear device and demonstrated its nuclear weapon capability, Pakistan has made the following equitable proposals to ensure nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia:

(a) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia, a proposal which has been endorsed repeatedly by the United Nations General Assembly since 1974;

(b) In view of India's opposition to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia, we proposed in 1978 that, as a first step, Pakistan and India should issue a joint declaration renouncing the acquisition or manufacture of nuclear weapons;

(c) In 1979, Pakistan proposed an agreement with India on a system of bilateral inspection of all nuclear facilities on a reciprocal basis;

(d) We also proposed in 1979 simultaneous acceptance of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards by Pakistan and India on all nuclear facilities;

(e) Pakistan expressed its readiness in 1979 to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) simultaneously with India;

(f) Later in 1987, Pakistan proposed the conclusion of a bilateral or regional nuclear test-ban treaty;

(g) In 1987, Pakistan also proposed the convening of a conference on nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of regional and other interested States.

The Prime Minister's proposal of 6 June 1991 for five-nation consultations was the latest move by Pakistan to ensure nuclear non-proliferation in the region. With the exception of India, this proposal has been accepted by all the other parties, that is, the United States of America, Russia and China.

Unfortunately, India has so far not accepted any of the proposals made by Pakistan for preventing nuclear proliferation in South Asia. We feel that India's position on the issue is against international trends, as well as peace, stability and progress of the region.

Pakistan, in the process of development of its nuclear programme, has acquired a certain technical capability in the nuclear field. However, a political decision has been taken at the highest level to use this capability for peaceful purposes only and not to produce nuclear weapons. At the same time, for obvious reasons, Pakistan cannot forgo its options unilaterally.

I would like to stress that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear explosive device and does not intend to make one. In consonance with its commitment to nuclear non-proliferation, Pakistan would also not transfer sensitive nuclear technology to third countries.

I would like to express the hope that India, in the interest of peace and progress in the South Asia region, would respond positively to Pakistan's proposals so that South Asia is saved from the spectre of nuclear weapons and the regional countries can devote themselves to the gigantic task of economic development and raising the standard of living of their peoples.

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Forty-seventh session
Item 69 of the preliminary list*

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 19 February 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text, in English and French, of a declaration of the Presidency of the European Community on Yugoslavia, issued at Lisbon on 17 February 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 69 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Ambassador of Portugal
Permanent Representative to the
United Nations

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* A/47/50.

ANNEX

Declaration on Yugoslavia

The Community and its member States warmly welcome the recommendation made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Security Council on the deployment of a United Nations peace-keeping force in Yugoslavia, in accordance with the United Nations Plan. They strongly hope that a favourable decision will be reached shortly.

They call upon all parties to do their utmost to facilitate the speedy and safe deployment of the United Nations peace-keeping force.

The Community and its member States consider that the combined and coordinated efforts of the United Nations peace-keeping forces and of the monitor mission will constitute a major factor towards the establishment of the necessary conditions for a peaceful and comprehensive settlement of the crisis, to be reached through the active participation of all parties concerned in the Conference on Yugoslavia. They also underline the continued importance of the strict respect for the arms embargo in force.

The Community and its member States reiterate their full appreciation for the results already achieved in the framework of the Conference on Yugoslavia, under the Chairmanship of Lord Carrington. In this respect, they emphasize the need for all participants to comply fully with the commitments already undertaken regarding the provisions of the Draft Treaty on the protection of human rights and the rights of minorities and the unacceptability of any change of borders brought about by force.

The Community and its member States note with appreciation the constructive attitude of Serbia and will take it into account when reviewing the question of positive measures.

The Community and its member States express their support for the ongoing efforts, under the auspices of the Conference, to foster dialogue among all parties in Bosnia-Herzegovina, aimed at achieving a constitutional solution which must take into consideration the legitimate concerns of all peoples involved within the inviolable borders of the Republic. In this light, they indicate their readiness to respond in a positive way to the request of the Bosnian authorities for international supervision of the forthcoming referendum, in close coordination with the relevant institutions of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The Community and its member States will continue to follow very closely all developments concerning the possible recognition of other Republics.